

scoping package that will be sent to the project mailing list and to those that request the package. For the Forest Service to best use the scoping input, comments should be received by October 27, 2000.

Based on results of scoping and the resource capabilities within the project area, alternatives including a "no action" alternative will be developed for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS).

The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be a minimum of 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553, (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2nd 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns of the proposed action, comments during scoping and comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and

addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Requesters should be aware that, under FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within 7 days.

Permits: Permits required for implementation include the following:

1. U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
 - Approval of discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act;
 - Approval of the construction of structures or work in navigable waters of the United States under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899;
2. Environmental Protection Agency
 - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (402) Permit;
 - Review Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan;
3. State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
 - Tideland Permit and Lease or Easement;
4. State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation
 - Solid Waste Disposal Permit;
 - Certification of Compliance with Alaska Water Quality Standards (401 Certification).

Responsible Official

Thomas Puchlerz, Forest Supervisor, Tongass National Forest, Federal Building, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901, is the responsible official. The responsible official will consider the comments, response, disclosure of environmental consequences, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making the decision and stating the rationale in the Record of Decision.

Dated: September 5, 2000.

Thomas Puchlerz,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 00-24079 Filed 9-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission For OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: 2000 Panel of the Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 4 Topical Module.

Form Number(s): SIPP 2045(L), Director's Letter, SIPP/CAPI Automated Instrument.

Agency Approval Number: 0607-0865.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 37,650.

Number of Respondents: 26,250.

Avg. Hours Per Response: 30 minutes per person.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau conducts the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) to collect information concerning the distribution of income received directly as money or indirectly as in-kind benefits. SIPP data are used by economic policymakers, the Congress, state and local governments, and Federal agencies that administer social welfare and transfer payment programs such as the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Department of Agriculture.

The SIPP is a longitudinal survey, in that households in the panel are interviewed at 4-month intervals or waves over the life of the panel. The duration of a panel is typically 3 to 4 years. The length of the 2000 SIPP Panel is subject to the approval of budget initiatives but is currently scheduled for one year and will include three waves of interviews.

The survey is molded around a central core of labor force and income questions, health insurance questions, and questions concerning government program participation that remain fixed throughout the life of the panel. The core questions are asked in Wave 1 and are updated during subsequent interviews. The core is supplemented with additional questions or topical

modules designed to answer specific needs.

This request is for clearance of the topical modules for Wave 4. The core questionnaire and topical modules for Waves 1, 2, and 3 were cleared previously. The topical modules for Wave 4 are: Annual Income and Retirement Accounts, Taxes, Work Schedule, Child Care, and Children's Well-Being. Wave 4 interviews will be conducted from February 2001 through May 2001. Additionally, a reinterview for quality control purposes will be conducted with a small subsample of respondents throughout the life of the panel.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Frequency: Every 4 months.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Section 182.

OMB Desk Officer: Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Madeleine Clayton, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Susan Schechter, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 14, 2000.

Madeleine Clayton,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-24101 Filed 9-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Foreign Ocean Carriers' Expenses in the United States—BE-29

ACTION: Extension of a currently approved collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before November 20, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 or via the Internet at MClayton@doc.gov...

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to: Michael Mann, Chief, Current Account Services Branch, Room 8018, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230; phone: (202) 606-9573; and fax: (202) 606-5314.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Bureau of Economic Analysis is responsible for the computation and publication of the U.S. balance of payments accounts. The information collected in this survey is an integral part of the "transportation" portion of the U.S. balance of payments accounts. The balance of payments accounts, which are published quarterly in the Bureau's monthly publication, the *Survey of Current Business*, are one of the major statistical products of BEA. The accounts provide a statistical summary of U.S. international transactions. They are used by government and private organizations for national and international policy formulation, and analytical studies. Without the information collected in this survey, an integral component of the transportation account would be omitted. No other Government agency collects comprehensive annual data on foreign ocean carriers' expenses in the United States.

The survey requests information from U.S. agents of foreign ocean carriers. Information is collected on an annual basis from U.S. agents that handle 40 or more port calls by foreign vessels or have annual total covered expenses above \$250,000. U.S. agents with less than 40 port calls or with annual total covered expenses below \$250,000 are exempt from reporting.

II. Method of Collection

Mandatory reports are received from U.S. shipping agents who provide data regarding the expenses of foreign ocean carriers' in the United States. Submission of the completed report form, or computer printouts in the format of the report form, are the most

expedient and economical methods of reporting the information.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0608-0012.

Form Number: BE-29.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Businesses or Other For-Profit Organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 160.

Estimated Time Per Response: 4 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 640 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The estimated annual cost to the Federal Government is \$33,000. The estimated annual cost to the public is \$19,200 based on an estimated total annual burden hours and an estimated hourly cost of \$30.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory
Legal Authority: The International Investment and Trade in Services Act, 22 U.S.C. 3101-3108.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the continued collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 15, 2000.

Madeleine Clayton,

DOC Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Chief Information Officer.

FR Doc. 00-24170 Filed 9-19-00; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE EA-3510-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Foreign Airline Operators' Revenues and Expenses in the United States—BE-36

ACTION: Extension of a currently approved collection; comment request.